Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 COME-00 H-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01
ITC-01 STR-07 JUSE-00 PA-02 /034 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/TA:JRCUNNINGHAM:PRM
APPROVED BY EB/OT/TA:HKOPP
EA/J:HCOCHRAN
COMMERCE:DBUSSINGER
----------033951 060823Z /21
R 060024Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 115801

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE EEL IMPORTS.

1. DEPARTMENT WAS CALLED BY COMPANY IN MAINE WHICH HAS PARTICIPATED IN GROWING BUSINESS OF SUPPLYING EEL FRY (ELVERS) TO JAPANESE. LAST YEAR 10 OR 12 COMPANIES SOLD BETWEEN 7 AND 10 METRIC TONS OF ELVERS ON EXPERIMENTAL BASIS VALUED AT US $100 PER KILO. EXPECTATIONS BY SUPPLIERS AND TRADING COMPANIES IN US WERE THAT BUSINESS THIS YEAR WOULD BE AS MUCH AS FOUR TIMES AS LARGE. TO DATE, HALF WAY THROUGH THE SEASON, NORTH ATLANTIC PRODUCTS, INC. WHICH SUPPLIED ABOUT 2 MT LAST YEAR HAS SOLD ONLY 800 POUNDS. OTHER COMPANIES ARE EXPERIENCING SIMILAR DRASTIC DROP IN BUSINESS.

2. ACCORDING TO NORTH ATLANTIC, JAPANESE MARKET IS IN SHORT SUPPLY AND PONDS FOR GROWING EELS CANNOT BE BUILT FAST ENOUGH TO MEET DEMAND. OTHER COUNTRIES IN UNCLASSIFIED

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SOUTHEAST ASIA APPARENTLY ALSO SUPPLY ELVERS, BUT OF OTHER EEL SPECIES.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION WHICH EMBASSY CAN SUPPLY ON POSSIBLE REASON FOR THIS DROP IN PURCHASES. US FIRMS FEAR MARKET MAY HAVE BEEN SUPPLIED BY OTHER COUNTRIES BUT LACK INFORMATION ON SITUATION.

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FYI: DEPT. HAS INFORMATION THAT JAPANESE EEL CULTURE
ASSOCIATION MAY HAVE FORMED PURCHASE CARTEL IN EFFORT
TO FORCE PRICES DOWN. END FYI.

4. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CALL EITHER TOKAI DENPUN CO.
LTD. SUZUKI YOSHIAKI PRES. 24015 TEMMACHO SHIZUOKA
TELEPHONE 0542-53-1181 OR MARUHAIYOSHIBI FISHERIES CO.,
MR. OKA, PRES. YOSHIDA-CHO, HAIBARA BUN SHIZOKA
054-83-2-0188 (NUMBER SUPPLIED BY FIRM MAY BE INCORRECT.)

5. SENATOR MUSKIE'S ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN REQUESTED
BY NEWLY FORMED NORTH AMERICAN EEL AND ELVER ASSN. LETTER
FROM SENATOR JESSE HELMS REQUESTING AMBASSADOR'S ATTENTION
TO THIS MATTER FOLLOWS SEPTEL. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 06 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE115801
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JRCUNNINGHAM:PRM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780193-0748
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
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Litigation History:
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Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
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Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2770391
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE EEL IMPORTS.
TAGS: ETRD, JA
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/365b3aa3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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